I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

On <u>September 23, 1999</u>

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Jannife KHardi

Q 1643

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 18422-000210US

SEP 2 7 1999 5 0 1999

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Boles et al.

Application No.: 09/336,609

Filed: 6/18/99

For: DETECTION OF NON-VIRAL ORGANISMS WITH SRP RNA

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

1643

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and

§1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and

Boles et al.

Application No.: 09/336,609

Page 2

no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that <u>no fee is required</u> for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette S. Parent Reg. No. 42,058

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

Two Embarcadero Center, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel: 415-576-0200 Fax: 415-576-0300

ASP/dxm

SF 1028622 v1